

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/1/2010 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 43, 45, 49, 51, 73-74, 77-78, 81-82 and 84-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Han (Pub. # 20030103237) in view of Kuroda ('073).

Regarding claim 43, Han (Pub. # 20030103237) discloses an information processing apparatus (computer, **See Figure 1, Element 100**) capable of communicating with a printing apparatus (printing unit, **See Figure 1, Element 200**), such that the information processing apparatus include a setting unit (embodied within the computer) that sets, via a GUI in the information processing apparatus (shown in the display device, **See Figure 2, Element 128**), a first mode with a single print-out for

single print data (normal mode for printing, **See Figure 5B; Page 2, Paragraph 0038**), and a second mode with a plurality of different print-outs for single print data (presentation and normal mode for outputting the single data, **See Figure 5C; Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), a producing unit (embodied within the computer) that produces a print job to be printed by the printing apparatus according with the mode set with the print job including a command part describing a group of job commands and print data part describing print data by a print language (print data in either the first mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, or the second mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), a sending unit (embodied within the computer) that sends the print job produced to the printing apparatus (sends a control signal for the printing operation within the printer, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0028**), wherein, in the second mode, the group of job commands includes a print control command for enabling the printing apparatus to execute a printing operation of the multiple of different print-outs from the single print data described in the print data part (the multiple parts are selected and enabled accordingly in order to allow the printing unit prints the data, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), and wherein, in the printing apparatus, the printing operation for the print-outs is executed from the single print data for a print job produced according with the first mode (the data is printed in the printing unit, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**, such that the normal mode is selected for outputting, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**), and the printing operation for the multiple different print-outs is executed from the single print data for a print job produced according to the second mode (the data is printed in the printing unit,

See Page 2, Paragraph 0030, such that the presentation / normal mode is selected for outputting, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**).

Han (Pub. # 20030103237) does not disclose a print-out page layout for the first mode, two different print-out page layouts for the second mode, such that the printing operation for the print-out page layout is executed to produce a print-out result with the print-out page layout for the first mode as well as two different print-out page layouts is executed to produce at least two different print-out results together, such that each with a different print-out page layout from the single print data for the second mode.

Kuroda ('073) discloses a print-out page layout for the first mode (standard print style, **See Figure 5**), two different print-out page layouts for the second mode (N-up with a selected layout sequence, **See Figure 5**), such that the printing operation for the print-out page layout is executed to produce a print-out result with the print-out page layout for the first mode (the standard print style is selected for the print mode, **See Figure 5**) as well as two different print-out page layouts is executed to produce at least two different print-out results together, such that each with a different print-out page layout from the single print data for the second mode (the N-up print style is selected as well as the layout sequence for the selected print mode, **See Figure 5**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to include different layouts for the selected mode, such as the one disclosed within Kuroda ('073), and incorporate it into the apparatus of Han (Pub. # 20030103237) because it allows the user to decide the type of layouts to incorporate

within the page prior to printing rather than have the layouts automatically selected without any user input.

Regarding claim 45, the combination of Han (Pub. # 20030103237) and Kuroda ('073) does disclose a plurality of different print-out layouts includes one layout, such that one page is printed out on one sheet and another layout in which a plurality of pages are printed on one sheet (one layout is the standard print style, and another is the N-up print style, based on the user selection, **See Kuroda ('073), Figure 5**).

Regarding claim 73, Han (Pub. # 20030103237) discloses an information processing apparatus (computer, **See Figure 1, Element 100**) capable of producing a print job to be printed by a printing apparatus (prints the data according to the format selected by the user, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), such that print job includes a command part and a print data part (the print job includes the print data and the selected format for transmitting to the printer, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), the information processing apparatus includes a user interface unit (embodied within the computer) that sets a first print setting and a second print setting from the information processing apparatus so that the printing apparatus can output the print data part included in one print job in a first output and in a second output, respectively (sets to output the data in either normal mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, and the presentation / normal mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), a setting unit (embodied within the computer) that sets a first print control command to specify the first output based on the first print setting and a second print control command to specify the second output format based on the second print setting to the command part included in

the print job so that the printing apparatus can output the print data part included in the print job in the first output and in the second output, respectively (set either the normal mode to be selected for outputting, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, or the presentation / normal mode to be selected for outputting, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**, wherein either includes the print data and the format accordingly, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), a producing unit (embodied within the computer) that produces a print job to be printed by the printing apparatus according with the mode set with the print job including a command part describing a group of job commands and print data part describing print data by a print language (print data in either the first mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, or the second mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), a sending unit (embodied within the computer) that sends the print job produced to the printing apparatus (sends a control signal for the printing operation within the printer, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0028**) wherein, in the printing apparatus, a printing operation of the first output based on the first print setting and a printing operation of the second output based on the second print setting are executed by using the print data part of the same print job (the printing unit completes the print job for the print data using the selected format as set by the user, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**).

Han (Pub. # 20030103237) does not disclose a print-out page layout for the first mode, two different print-out page layouts for the second mode, such that the printing operation for the print-out page layout is executed to produce a print-out result with the print-out page layout for the first mode as well as two different print-out page layouts is

executed to produce at least two different print-out results together, such that each with a different print-out page layout from the single print data for the second mode.

Kuroda ('073) discloses a print-out page layout for the first mode (standard print style, **See Figure 5**), two different print-out page layouts for the second mode (N-up with a selected layout sequence, **See Figure 5**), such that the printing operation for the print-out page layout is executed to produce a print-out result with the print-out page layout for the first mode (the standard print style is selected for the print mode, **See Figure 5**) as well as two different print-out page layouts is executed to produce at least two different print-out results together, such that each with a different print-out page layout from the single print data for the second mode (the N-up print style is selected as well as the layout sequence for the selected print mode, **See Figure 5**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to include different layouts for the selected mode, such as the one disclosed within Kuroda ('073), and incorporate it into the apparatus of Han (Pub. # 20030103237) because it allows the user to decide the type of layouts to incorporate within the page prior to printing rather than have the layouts automatically selected without any user input.

Regarding claim 74, the combination of Han (Pub. # 20030103237) and Kuroda ('073) discloses that the first output layout and the second output layout are different N-up layout printings (no N-up, such as the standard print style, and a selected amount of N-up pages, **See Kuroda ('073). Figure 5**).

Regarding claim 84, Han (Pub. # 20030103237) discloses a printing system (**See Figure 1**) that includes an information processing apparatus (computer, **See Figure 1, Element 100**) and a printing apparatus (printing unit, **See Figure 1, Element 200**), such that the information processing apparatus and the printing apparatus are connected through a communication medium (over an interface, **See Figure 1, Element 122**), wherein the information processing apparatus includes a user interface unit (embodied within the computer) that sets a first print setting and a second print setting from the information processing apparatus so that the printing apparatus can output the print data part included in one print job in a first output and in a second output, respectively (sets to output the data in either normal mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, and the presentation / normal mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), a setting unit (embodied within the computer) for setting a first print control command to specify the first output based on the first print setting and a second print control command to specify the second output based on the second print setting to the command part included in the print job so that the printing apparatus can output the print data part included in the print job in the first output and in the second output, respectively (set either the normal mode to be selected for outputting, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, or the presentation / normal mode to be selected for outputting, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**, wherein either includes the print data and the format accordingly, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), a producing unit (embodied within the computer) that produces a print job to be printed by the printing apparatus according with the mode set with the print job including a command part describing a group of job commands and print data part describing print

data by a print language (print data in either the first mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0038**, or the second mode, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0035**), a sending unit (embodied within the computer) that sends the print job produced to the printing apparatus (sends a control signal for the printing operation within the printer, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0028**), and wherein the printing apparatus includes a receiving unit (embodied within the printing unit) that receives the one print job including the command part and the print data part from the information processing apparatus (receives the print data along with the selected format from the computer, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), an interpreting unit (embodied within the printing unit) that interprets the command part included in the one print job (interprets the format decided by the user sent from the computer, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), a producing unit (embodied within the printing unit) that produces the print image data from the print data part included in the one print job according to the interpretation of the command data (feeds the paper according to the format selected, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**), and a printout performing unit (embodied within the printing unit) for performing a printout on a printing medium based on the print image data produced (provides the data to the selected feeding area of the printing unit, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0031**), such that the producing unit produces the print image data of the first output from the print data part by the interpretation for the first print setting included in the command part, and produces the print image data of the second output from the print data part by the interpretation for the second print setting included in the command part (the printing unit completes the print job for the print data using the selected format as set by the user, **See Page 2, Paragraph 0030**).

Han (Pub. # 20030103237) does not disclose a print-out page layout for the first mode, two different print-out page layouts for the second mode, such that the printing operation for the print-out page layout is executed to produce a print-out result with the print-out page layout for the first mode as well as two different print-out page layouts is executed to produce at least two different print-out results together, such that each with a different print-out page layout from the single print data for the second mode.

Kuroda ('073) discloses a print-out page layout for the first mode (standard print style, **See Figure 5**), two different print-out page layouts for the second mode (N-up with a selected layout sequence, **See Figure 5**), such that the printing operation for the print-out page layout is executed to produce a print-out result with the print-out page layout for the first mode (the standard print style is selected for the print mode, **See Figure 5**) as well as two different print-out page layouts is executed to produce at least two different print-out results together, such that each with a different print-out page layout from the single print data for the second mode (the N-up print style is selected as well as the layout sequence for the selected print mode, **See Figure 5**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to include different layouts for the selected mode, such as the one disclosed within Kuroda ('073), and incorporate it into the apparatus of Han (Pub. # 20030103237) because it allows the user to decide the type of layouts to incorporate within the page prior to printing rather than have the layouts automatically selected without any user input.

Regarding claims 49, 51, 77-78 and 85, the rationale provided in the rejection of claims 43, 45, 73-74 and 84 is incorporated herein. In addition, the apparatus of claims 43, 45 and 73-74 and the printing system of claim 84 corresponds to the method of claims 49, 51, 77-78 and 85 and performs the steps disclosed herein.

Regarding claim 81, Han (Pub. # 20030103237) discloses a computer readable medium storing a control program for implementing the method (RAM, **See Figure 2, Element 114**).

Regarding claims 82 and 86, the rationale provided in the rejection of claim 81 is incorporated herein. In addition, the method of claim 81 corresponds to the method of claims 82 and 86 and performs the steps disclosed herein.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the amended claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection. As a result, the combination of Han and Kuroda is used and together does meet each limitation of the amended claims as disclosed within the rejection above.

Based on these facts, **THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.**

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Rudolph whose telephone number is (571) 272-8243. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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